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**MINNESOTA'S MARCH MILK OUTPUT UP 1 PERCENT**

March 2005 milk production totaled 710 million pounds in Minnesota, up 1 percent from the 702 million pounds produced in March 2004, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. February milk output at 639 million pounds was not revised.

Minnesota production per cow averaged 1,560 pounds in March 2005, up 50 pounds from last March. The February rate at 1,405 pounds per cow was not revised. The average number of milk cows on farms in Minnesota during March 2005 was 455,000 head, the same as February, but down 10,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated Minnesota milk production for the first 3 months of 2005 was 2.05 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the same period a year ago.

**MARCH MILK PRODUCTION UP 3 PERCENT IN MAJOR STATES**

Milk production during March 2005 totaled 13.78 billion pounds, up 3 percent from March 2004 in the 23 major states. Revised February production for the 23 states was 12.27 billion pounds. Production per cow in the 23 states averaged 1,704 pounds during March 2005, up 43 pounds from March 2004. Revised February output per cow was 1,519 pounds. The number of milk cows in the 23 major states during March averaged 8.10 million head, up 38,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated milk production in the 23 major states for the first 3 months of 2005 was 39.33 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the same period a year ago.

**MILK PRODUCTION, MAJOR STATES**

State	MILK COWS			RATE PER COW			MILK PRODUCTION			
	Mar 2004	Feb 2005 Rev.	Mar 2005	Mar 2004	Feb 2005 Rev.	Mar 2005	Mar 2004	Feb 2005 Rev.	Mar 2005	2005 as % of 2004
	<u>Thousand Head</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Million Pounds</u>			<u>Percent</u>
CA	1,710	1,742	1,748	1,815	1,635	1,845	3,104	2,848	3,225	104
ID	413	437	440	1,780	1,680	1,870	735	734	823	112
<b>MN</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>101</b>
NY	660	650	651	1,510	1,415	1,595	997	920	1,038	104
PA	564	560	560	1,570	1,420	1,600	885	795	896	101
WI	1,244	1,234	1,233	1,510	1,405	1,560	1,878	1,734	1,923	102
23 States	8,059	8,076	8,097	1,661	1,519	1,704	13,387	12,270	13,799	103